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Carly Gallagher / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Some students traveled halfway across the world for spring break, while others made a short trip home. Experiences range from SCUBA diving in Florida to road trips to Beaufort.

Students globe-trot during break

From Florida to France, Gamecocks spend time off having fun, helping less fortunate

Elizabeth Segrist
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC students spread out across the world last week to enjoy spring break.

Some students went home, some headed for vacation hot spots and others focused on academic or service trips.

A group of nine students and two USC staff members went to the Penn Center on Saint Helena Island off the coast of Beaufort.

Clay Bolton, associate director for Student Involvement and Leadership, said the group cleaned up Penn Center nature trail, restored and painted a cottage built for Martin Luther King Jr., vaccinated a herd of goats, visited a 99-year-old Gullah woman and archived hundreds of documents and artifacts for the museum.

Deidre Delay, a fourth-year visual communications student, said the group also did yard work and played with local children.

“From the staff and children

we got to work with, I was given the opportunity to see the side of the culture I would have never experienced if I had just come to visit,” Delay said.

Channing Cantrell, a first-year nursing student, said the people there embrace Gullah culture.

Other students went out of the country for their spring break.

Students in the French Club visited their penpals, called “keypals,” and experience French culture in France. The French students visited USC earlier this year.

Lauren Rose, a first-year elementary education student, went with a group of friends to Cancun, Mexico. She said there were obvious differences from home, such as language and money, but she enjoyed the trip.

“The weather was really nice and the beaches were gorgeous. I loved downtown because it was really fun with the bars and restaurants,”



Megan Sinclair / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Florida sun and warm weather welcomed many students looking for fun during their spring break.

BREAK ● 2

Georgia set to pay back wrongly imprisoned man after 25 years

Doug Gross
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — A man wrongly imprisoned nearly 25 years for rape is set to get a \$1.2 million payback from the state.

On Monday, the Georgia House will consider paying Robert Clark that much in restitution for his time in prison for a 1981 attack before DNA evidence cleared his name two years ago.

The resolution, by Rep.

Larry O’Neal, a Republican from Warner Robins, says the Atlanta man’s imprisonment “occurred through no fault or negligence on the part of Mr. Clark, and it is only fitting and proper that he be compensated for his loss.”

The state Claims Advisory Board, the first panel to hear requests for restitution from the state, heard Clark’s case last month and recommended that the Legislature pay him.

Secretary of State Karen Handel, the board’s

chairwoman, said she was moved by Clark’s demeanor when he made his case.

“What I am so struck about you is that you sit there and you’re smiling. You are amazing — really,” she said before the board’s vote.

After the vote, she hugged Clark and held his hand as she spoke privately with him.

“She was very touched that this man, who should probably be bitter to the world, was not,” Handel spokeswoman Vicki Gavalas

said Friday.

The board left the amount of restitution up to the Legislature. The \$1.2 million is based on the income Clark lost while imprisoned, personal injury, injury to his reputation and other damages.

Clark, now 46, had no prior felony convictions. He was the 197th person nationally and the sixth in Georgia to be cleared by DNA evidence of a criminal conviction, according to The Innocence

Project, a New York-based group that works to overturn wrongful convictions.

“Just rebuilding a life is so difficult,” said Lisa George, spokeswoman for the Georgia Innocence Project. “It’s gratifying to know that the Georgia House of Representatives is seeing the problem, listening to the need and responding.”

George said the \$1.2 million check may sound like a lot, but that when Clark’s losses are considered it’s

really not.

Clark was a 21-year-old house painter when he was arrested. “If he’d just kept doing that from the day he was arrested to the day he got out of prison, his hard-dollar losses were over \$1 million,” she said.

Under the restitution plan, Clark will get monthly checks from the state over the next 15 years totaling about \$80,000 per year. The checks will still be subject to federal taxes.

Five Points knows how to throw a party

What can you say about a day that starts at 8:30 in the morning and doesn't end until 2 a.m. the next day — a day filled with music, food, friends and so much green that you forget there are any other colors?

JUSTIN JONES

Fourth-year psychology and history student

Five Points.

I started off the day running the Get to the Green 5K road race, one of the more popular races in the state. The race started on Blossom Street and wound its way through Shandon and ended on Devine Street right outside of Five Points.

I was the only one of my friends who decided that

waking up early to go run a race would be a good idea, and I was the only one up when I finished. I went home until everyone else woke up.

Around noon, I met up with my friends and headed down to Five Points. This was my first St. Patrick's day in Five Points, so I was a little overwhelmed at first.

I had no clue that Five Points could hold so many people. I have no idea what the official numbers are, and I'm afraid to even guess. The only thing I know for sure is that there were a lot of people, a lot of music and a lot of green alcohol. The minute I got into the party, I was sure I would not be disappointed, despite all the hype surrounding the event.

I walked around and listened to the various bands that were playing. Even though I didn't know who was playing most of the

time, I heard an incredible variety of music and was amazed at how many bands were there.

There was something for everyone, with some smaller local bands in attendance as well as big-name bands.

Overall the day was, for me, a success. I was tired by the end, and I had met more people than I'll ever remember. I felt good about it because I kept telling myself that I'd run a race that morning, so I'd earned it.

My friends, many of whom had been to previous St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Five Points, said the event was great this year — definitely as good, if not better, than the ones they'd been to before.

I've got to hand it to the people who organized the celebration — they sure know how to throw a party.



Brandon Davis / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Thousands of people, many adorned in green, crowded Five Points for drinks and music.



Brandon Davis / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Rep. Jim Clyburn and other black leaders said an apology for slavery from the state is not at the top of their list.

State's black lawmakers seek action rather than apologies

Many black lawmakers in South Carolina say they would rather see the state make progress in race relations rather than apologies for its role in the slave trade.

Lawmakers in Georgia and Missouri are discussing apologies for their states' slave-owning pasts.

Virginia passed a resolution last month expressing regret for its slavery involvement and a Tennessee lawmaker wants Congress to pass a similar resolution apologizing for slavery and subsequent discrimination during the era of Jim Crow laws designed to keep blacks from voting or having full rights of citizenship.

But in South Carolina, which was home to one of the largest ports of entry for

African slaves, there is no such effort.

"I'm not the kind to get caught up on a verbal apology," said Rep. Leon Howard, D-Columbia and head of the Legislative Black Caucus. Howard said the state still has real race issues, such as blacks state workers still making less money on average than white state workers.

U.S. House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn, South Carolina's first black congressman since Reconstruction, said he also is unimpressed with all the talk of apologizing for slavery.

"For someone to tell me they will vote for an apology but not support affirmative action — which would you rather have?" Clyburn said.

— Associated Press

S.C. bill would require ultrasounds

Proponents say that seeing child would change minds of those seeking to have abortions

Seanna Adcox
The Associated Press

Women seeking abortions in South Carolina would be required to view an ultrasound image of their fetus before the procedure under a proposal gaining support from lawmakers. If enacted, it would be the first law of its kind in the nation.

Some states make ultrasound images available to women before an abortion, but South Carolina would be alone in mandating that women see the pictures.

Proponents say women would change their minds after seeing an ultrasound and choose instead to keep the child or offer it for adoption.

To reduce abortions, women need "as much background as possible when they're making decisions," said Oran Smith, president of the Palmetto Family Council, the state affiliate of Focus on the Family.

Critics consider the proposal a tool to intimidate women who already have made an agonizing decision.

"The women of South Carolina would rather talk to their doctor about information they need to make private, personal medical decisions. This is not a place for interference by politicians," said Nancy Keenan, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America.

The bill's chief sponsor, Rep. Greg Delleney, considers the bill a natural addition to the state's informed-consent law, which requires that women be told about fetal development and offered alternatives to abortion. The law requires a woman to have at least an hour to think about the information before ending her pregnancy.

Marie Connelly of Columbia, who had an abortion more than four years ago, said she now wishes she could have seen an ultrasound of her fetus before undergoing the procedure. She said she recently went back to the clinic to get "the only picture I will have of my child."

"This legislation will serve as one last chance for those women who, like myself,

unknowingly choose against their better judgment," said Connelly, a director at the family council. "More women will not have to bear the relentless heartache knowing they will never be able to hug their lost child."

Similar legislation has arisen across the nation over the last few years as states try to strengthen abortion-counseling requirements, said Elizabeth Nash, a public policy associate at the Guttmacher Institute, a nonprofit research center on sexual and reproductive health.

At least seven states have laws concerning abortions and ultrasounds. For example, women in Oklahoma, Utah and Wisconsin must be told an ultrasound is available. In Arkansas and Michigan, if an ultrasound is performed, women must be given the opportunity to view it.

Ten other states are considering similar legislation. Mississippi is reviewing a proposal that would allow women to listen to a fetal heartbeat in addition to seeing the ultrasound image.

Delleney's proposal would

require patients to certify in writing that they viewed the ultrasound.

Democratic state Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter plans to lead the fight against the legislation when it comes up for debate later this month in the GOP-dominated House. But she said she expects the legislation to pass because even lawmakers who don't like the bill will be afraid to vote against it.

The measure has picked up 20 co-sponsors in the House. A matching bill in the Senate remains in a committee.

Lindsay Siler, a spokeswoman for Planned Parenthood Health Systems in Raleigh, N.C., said if legislators want to reduce abortions, they should focus on preventing unintended pregnancies.

"Women are intelligent and thoughtful human beings who would not go forward if they did not think this was in their best interest," Siler said. "This bill is nothing more than politically driven. It's unnecessary and an attempt to restrict abortion by scaring and intimidating women."



"We like them big ol pictures"
dailygamecock.com

BREAK • Continued from 1

Rose said.

Katie Boucher, a third-year public relations student, visited her roommate in Barcelona, Spain, and said the city is extremely rich in culture and very accepting. Boucher visited Sagrada Familia, a temple that has been under construction for more than 200 years and Barcelona's football stadium, Camp Nou.

"It is very impressive," Boucher said.

Members of the USC SCUBA Diving Club went to the Florida Keys where they completed nine dives, including a night dive.

"We saw a variety of fish, lovely underwater life and dove through the inside of the Spiegel Grove, a ship sunk to create an artificial reef off of the shore of Key Largo," said Thorben Primke, first-year

computer science student and treasurer of the SCUBA Diving Club.

Ken Young, SCUBA Club adviser, said annual visits to specific reefs and wrecks are an interesting part of being in the club.

"We have watched the ocean life grow, and called it home for over five years and have even seen how weather patterns such as hurricanes can take the vessel from an overturned position and set it upright. A task not even

engineers could do without undue costs and time," Young said.

Other students went home, such as R.J. Hartman, a second-year sports management student.

"I went home to hang out with friends from local colleges, relax and to watch a lot of college basketball," Hartman said.

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The Daily Gamecock

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IN OUR OPINION

Confederate flag art should stay on display

An art exhibit at the Museum of Art and Sciences in Tallahassee, Fla., stirred another Confederate controversy this week when Robert Hurst was offended by the artist John Sims’ use of the Confederate flag, Yahoo! News reported.

One exhibit displays the flag hanging from a noose and is titled, “The Proper Way to Hang a Confederate Flag.” Hurst has asked the museum to remove the 14 pieces and threatened legal action. But the museum has said it will stand by the artist.

Kudos to the museum. Maybe it sounds obvious to some, but it has to be said: this is an art exhibit. It’s supposed to offend people, illicit emotion and start dialogue.

The function of art is to get people to feel something, and Sims’ pieces do just that. Just because one redneck can’t handle seeing the flag in this manner doesn’t mean everyone shouldn’t be given the chance to see what all this fuss is about. And if you’re a big fan of the Confederate flag, don’t go to the museum.

Art is subjective. People didn’t like Pablo Picasso or Jackson Pollock when they were first producing art, but now everyone knows who they are.

This is a matter of freedom of speech anyway it’s decorated. Hurst’s claims are unsubstantiated and ridiculous. He has the right to say what he wants, but so does Sims.

Not all art is beautiful, but it is necessary to keep starting conversations.

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today’s paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

IT’S YOUR RIGHT

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STRAIGHT OUT OF RIGHT FIELD

Leftists are always looking for a story

Liberal conspiracy lovers offer comedic theories for back-to-school blues



JACOB DAVIS
Fourth-year print journalism student

Coming back from spring break is always a downer, so, for your amusement, I present an article I call “When leftist conspiracy theories collide!”

First, our good friend James Lovelock, “a renowned environmental scientist,” said the current manmade climate change means “Billions of us will die; the few breeding pairs of people that survive will be in the Arctic.”

The comic value of Lovelock predicting our apocalyptic end a few decades after fellow fruit loop Paul Ehrlich’s “The Population Bomb” predicted we’d be wiped out is lost on most people.

Predictions like Lovelock’s always bring to my mind scenes inspired by “Dr. Strangelove.”

I imagine people frantically carving out shelters in mineshafts and preparing to emerge only when Mother Nature has regained her temper.

Of course, this scenario

will not please the good folks at People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Witness the group’s latest rebuke of our meat-centric lifestyles, a shot at Al Gore.

According to the PETA files blog, “This morning, PETA sent Al a letter to remind him that, among other things, animals raised for food generate more greenhouse gases than all cars and trucks combined, and that (according to a recent University of Chicago study), switching to a vegan diet is more effective in countering global warming than switching from a standard American car to a Prius.”

Exhibit B is the always entertaining Mayor of New Orleans, Ray Nagin.

Nagin spoke last week before the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a trade group of newspapers that targets a largely black audience, and said, “They are studying

this model of natural disasters, dispersing the community and changing the electoral process in that community.”

Perhaps Nagin really believes President Bush caused Katrina or maybe he’s just getting into the spirit of New Orleans residents who testified before Congress that controlled demolition destroyed New Orleans’ levees.

Meanwhile, numerous studies have determined that levees and gates that could have saved the city were held up for decades by lawsuits from the same environmental groups that whine about global warming.

Nagin said his chances of re-election were slim because “they dispersed all of our people across 44 states with one-way tickets.”

Note to Mayor Nagin, Houston called and said it knows where a lot of your residents are and would be happy to let them return.

Perhaps Nagin doesn’t realize that after Katrina revealed the folly of building a coastal city at the bottom of a bowl, his citizens have wised up.

Student leaders hold potential, power

SG offers students chance to make impact, develop relationship with school



TOMMY PRESTON JR.
Student body president

How much power does Student Government really have? What does Student Government actually do? These are questions I am asked on a daily basis. People have a hard time seeing how a group of students can make an impact on a college campus largely governed by administrators and board members. They also have images of Student Government planning homecomings, having bake sales and protesting in front of the student union.

Student Government plays a major role by serving as liaisons between administrators and students. It also makes sure students’ interests are voiced. In a time when a majority of our university’s budgets are generated from student tuition, it is imperative that students have a say in the execution of their investment.

Through my years in student leadership positions, I have witnessed the power of the student voice. I have seen students work tirelessly to successfully change university policies at USC. I have seen students persuade legislators to invest more funding in higher education

interests of universities in our state, and student leaders rallied to cause the defeat of the proposal.

At USC, we are fortunate to have a university president who understands and accepts the role of Student Government. He has gone above and beyond to ensure that we have a seat at the decision-making table.

In years past student governments served as adversaries to university administrators. Student leaders believed that protesting, rioting and extreme, aggressive behavior were the best approaches to voicing students’ concerns.

Today, student leaders realize they actually have something in common with administrators: both groups want to provide the best education for the students who pay to attend that institution. With this mentality, we can all work

together to address the issues that are important to students, while continuing to do what’s necessary to move our university in the right direction.

This cordial relationship doesn’t mean that both groups always agree on everything. I will be the first to tell you that President Sorensen and I have disagreed with each other on many occasions, but we always had a relationship that allowed us to discuss the issue and find ways to compromise.

We all have the same constituents — the students — and we are committed to doing all we can to make the university experience one they will remember fondly.

I encourage students to support incoming Student Body President Nick Payne and the other leaders as they prepare to take office. Student governments around the nation are making history every day, and I strongly believe in the power that they have to truly make a positive impact on colleges and universities throughout the country. In the words of Margaret Mead, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Parking lot, equipment wait hurts gym appeal

Outdoor exercise seems more timely, convenient than long lines of Strom

There’s nothing like a good sweat to work out the stress of college pressures.

We are fortunate enough to have a beautiful work-out facility, Strom

Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center.

The center features 192,000 square feet of indoor space and includes a four-court gymnasium, outdoor recreation

center, indoor track, 52-foot climbing wall, cardio and fitness equipment, outdoor pool, and racquetball and squash courts.

Being a work out fanatic, this sounds like a slice of heaven. So tell me why in the world did they not accommodate for more parking and more basic equipment?

My anxiety screams at the idea of parking lot hell.

Believe it or not I am not the only college student who finds value in cardiovascular activity and lucky for me, by the time I actually get into the gym my heart rate is already high.

Too bad it is from high stress levels in that ridiculous search for a parking spot.

One would like to think with all the high-tech equipment and vast amenities, that the urban developer would realize that this facility would draw in vast numbers of college students and prepare accordingly.

So half an hour later I am finally able to park after stalking down someone leaving. By now my bad mood has escalated and all I want is my iPod and a treadmill. But no, the waiting continues.

All the cardiovascular equipment is taken, and I have never been one to like to run in circles.

The track is out of the picture and by going downstairs to do other machines I jeopardize my chances of being able to possess that sacred treadmill five others are waiting for.

Frustrated, I leave, giving my parking spot to another aggravated student.

I decide to repeat the process at the Blatt with a little more luck. I get in an hour of cardio after a 2-hour ordeal.

The weather is getting nicer and there is a therapeutic affect of being outside.

The relaxing sensation of fresh air hitting your lungs and the idea of actually going somewhere leads me to believe that outdoor exercise could be the solution.

I guess I should thank whoever did not realize that basics such as parking and treadmills are necessities for thousands of students. After all, they are indirectly responsible for my choice to pursue outdoor exercise.

Write for Viewpoints.
Please.
gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu



SPECIAL TO THE DAILY GAMECOCK

In "300," the Spartans fight against the Persian invaders during ancient times, but the film draws its inspiration from Frank Miller's graphic novel of the same name, not history.

'300' delights with gore, battle scenes

Not for weak stomachs, movie will thrill action addicts, violence junkies

Tyler Mobley
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

"300"
★★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

Yes, "300" has already been out for a week, but the truth is all the other movies

that debuted last Friday are a waste of your time. Why not focus on something worth seeing?

"300" is the film adaptation of Frank Miller's graphic novel of the same name, and it very loosely details the Battle of Thermopylae between 300 Spartans and a few hundred thousand invading Persians.

Directed by Zack Snyder ("Dawn of the Dead"), "300" is more focused on detailing the comic than

the actual historic event. That means you're in store for appearances by animals that never existed, freak shows such as Ephialtes the hunchback and gore that puts "Gladiator" to shame.

The Battle of Thermopylae was the battle in the Greco-Persian War in which about 300 Spartans fought off the massive Persian army to protect Greece from invaders. All of the Spartans were killed, but they took a huge number

of Persians with them. After this battle, a number of Greek city-states banded together with the Spartans to successfully fight off the Persian army.

Now we can get to all the violent, overly-masculine fun.

If you can't handle a pretty intense level of violence, you can't handle this movie. Decapitation, dismemberment and fountains of blood all cascade in slow motion

sequences reminiscent of the still-life images of the original graphic novel. Unlike many action movies that intentionally blur and shake up action sequences to hide the fact that nothing's going on, "300" details in slow motion every hit of every sword and every flying head.

Action-wise, "300" delivers on every level, but it hiccups in some of the more dramatic moments. Most of the acting is pretty

solid, but minor parts by no-name actors might bring a few unintentional smiles to your face. You'll understand when you see Ephialtes the hunchback getting sexed up in the freak tent.

Still, King Leonidas, played by Gerard Butler, is probably one of the most intensely cool characters in recent film history. He's completely intimidating and ripped out of his mind. Plus,

300 ● 6

Rock remakes story of love

Comedian finds his soft side in classic tale about temptation from marriage

Joe Neumaier
McClatchy

Who would have guessed that Chris Rock is old-fashioned?

It isn't that the 40-year-old comic and actor, whose no-holds-barred stand up act has filled the mainstream's "edgy" slot for a decade now, has mellowed. It isn't even that pop culture has caught up with Rock, who was already ahead of the curve when his "Chris Rock Show" debuted on HBO in 1997, confirming in its three years on the air the satirical promise he showed as a member of "Saturday Night Live" from 1990 to 1993 and as co-writer of the rap-world spoof "CB4" (1993).

It's that Rock's fiery, wiry persona seems to have a traditional undercurrent. His sitcom, "Everybody Hates Chris," now in its second season, is a Cosby-esque mining of parts of Rock's own Brooklyn childhood. And his new movie, "I Think I Love My Wife," which he directed (and wrote, with fellow comic Louis C.K.), is, after all its cleavage ogling and Viagra jokes, a gentle example of what used to be called a "comedy of re-marriage" (the movie's title holds its ultimate message).

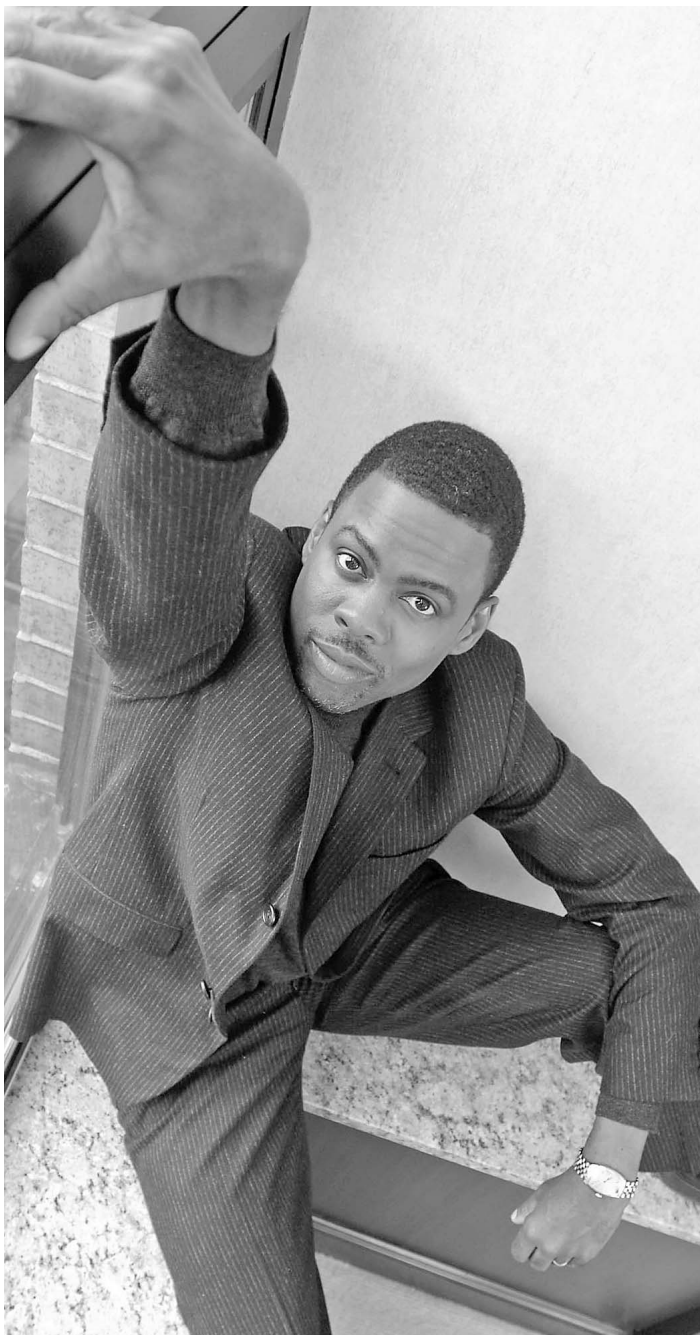
It's even a remake of a 1972 French film, Eric Rohmer's "Chloe in the

Afternoon," with a very prominent reference to Martin Scorsese's 1983 "The King of Comedy" in it. Mr. Rock, your movie-geekness is showing.

"I am an old movie guy," says Rock, chatting over a cup of chicken noodle soup on a recent afternoon. "But I think remakes are like cover songs. People may not know the original, so ... it's OK. But you know, 'Hey Joe' was a cover; Hendrix heard it and was like 'Hmm, maybe ...' And he gave it his own thing. The Beatles, the Stones, they did covers. You know, it's just a different version."

Rock knows what he's riffing about: In 2005, he starred with his friend Adam Sandler in "The Longest Yard," a remake of a 1974 Burt Reynolds film. In 2001 he did "Down to Earth," a re-make of 1978's "Heaven Can Wait" (itself a remake of 1941's "Here Comes Mr. Jordan"). And even his 2003 directorial debut, "Head of State," in which he played an alderman who runs for President, felt very Jimmy Stewart Goes to Everymanville.

"I Think I Love My Wife," which opened Friday, features Rock as Richard Cooper, a New York moneyman who walks among gorgeous Manhattan women all day, yet does nothing about it because he has a great



SPECIAL TO THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Comedian, director Chris Rock says his stand-up routines will outlast the movies he directs, but enjoys the work.

wife (Gina Torres) and two kids in the 'burbs. But Richard and his wife's sex life is MIA, so when an old pal's hot ex (Kerry Washington) pops up and seems to promise more than friendship, the family guy is tempted, mostly by his own imagination.

"Sure, I can relate to one or two things," says Rock,

who lives in New Jersey with his wife, Malaak, and their two children, ages 2 and 4. But if "Everybody Loves Chris" is a stand-in for his teen years, "I Think I Love My Wife," he says, is not him working out where he is now in life.

"Anyone who's my age,

ROCK ● 6

Marky Mark stereotype no longer fits Wahlberg

Actor trades in his bandanas for more serious roles

Terry Lawson
McClatchy

Mark Wahlberg refuses to be cool about being nominated for his first Oscar for his supporting role in "The Departed."

"It was absolutely without question the biggest thrill of my life," says Wahlberg, sprawled out on a hotel bed after a day of junket interviews. "Actually, it was probably the second. The first was getting cast in a Martin Scorsese movie with people like Leo (DiCaprio), Matt (Damon), and Alec (Baldwin), Marty (Martin Sheen), Jack (Nicholson). All of them Oscar-nominated guys, you know, then I get the nomination."

Wahlberg says he never expected to win, and he didn't; the prize went to Alan Arkin. But working with Scorsese — who did finally win the best director award — was the culmination, he says, of Stage One of his acting career.

Stage Two — proving himself as a serious actor — officially begins Friday, with the release of "Shooter."

Nobody, Wahlberg says, was more aware of the Marky Mark stigma than he was.

That would be defined as the general assumption that Wahlberg was just another bad-boy model and faux white rapper looking to parlay his beefcake good looks and Boston-street-tough rep into a Hollywood payday.

"I knew I had to deal with that," he says. "And the way I approached it was to make the decision that I was only

going to work with really good directors, or the up-and-comers, people that had a lot of critical respect. First, I wanted to learn the craft, and you do that by working for people that expect more of you than to just show up and do the gig. Then, you have to take responsibility, prove to them you're serious."

That's where "Shooter" comes in.

Wahlberg stars as Bob Lee Swagger, a former military sharpshooter turned special-ops sniper, who reluctantly leaves behind rural retirement and his distrust for a government that once betrayed him to take on a special job. A plot to assassinate the president of the United States has been uncovered, and Bob Lee is called on to figure out exactly how it is to be mounted, so it can be thwarted. And once again, the patriotic Bob Lee learns that sincere-sounding men in suits with government IDs cannot be trusted.

"This is a character I've always wanted to play," says Wahlberg. "When I was a kid my dad would take me to these Charles Bronson and Clint Eastwood movies, where they played guys that were sort of hard-wired to do the right thing, even when it meant going up against authority — the guy who doles out justice when no one else will, or can. So I get this script that's about a guy like that, and it's not just well-written, but it also speaks to the sort of stuff we as a country are going through

WAHLBERG ● 6

300 • Continued from 5

he's got the most powerful man scream around.

If you're getting the picture, you've probably noticed by now that "300" is one of the most absurdly masculine movies to come out in a long time. After all, it's a movie about 300 men in capes and what look like leather Speedos decapitating nameless hordes while they growl then die "glorious" deaths on the battlefield.

"Music and Lyrics" this

is not.

If you're up for a 2-hour gore fest punctuated by growling dialogue about dining in hell and freedom and such, you're in luck. "300" is exactly what its marketing campaign claimed to be, and that alone deserves some sort of award. Oh yeah, don't miss the slightly awkward, just a little too long sex scene near the beginning of the film — totally worth it.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

ROCK • Continued from 5

married, can relate," he says. But "I'm like the kid on the show grown up, not knowing how to deal with women. I just assume they don't want me. It helps to have low self-esteem."

Despite his affection for revisiting old movies, Rock says reliving his own past as one of comedy's most raw and riling truth-tellers is getting tougher.

He has hosted the Oscars and sold out the Apollo. Skinny Chris from a Brooklyn neighborhood — who honed his humor at a mostly white high school and began doing gigs at 18 — has seen his dreams exceed his expectations, but stand-up is still a demanding mistress.

"When you're successful, it becomes harder to leave home and go to some smoky club," Rock says. "And you spend more time preparing. It used to be, like, six weeks, or maybe a little more, of writing" before a show.

Now it's six months of working on material.

"And then as part of it all, getting ready, you have to go back to the place you began, the clubs. It's like going back to the first (job) you worked. It's tough."

And though he's reached the level of fame of childhood heroes like Bill Cosby — a show based on his youth, successful standup, cachet in Hollywood — he still has to face the one-yuksmanship of the comedy world.

"When I was younger, it was a little competitive," Rock says, "but after a gig it'd be me and Sandler and some guys going to a diner,

talking about how much we loved Richard Pryor. That was our thing:

"How far away from Pryor are you?" "I'm this far away!" "I'm this far away, and you're THAT far away!"

"But deconstructing comedy isn't sexy. When people start to analyze my act, think about it — that's weird to me. It's just me talking! And when it got kind of big, 5,000 people in an auditorium, things like that, then it got a little ... weirder.

"And people think my stuff is political. I'm not political. I don't sit around and say, 'The president's State of the Union should have been this.' I'm political like a guy sitting in a barbershop is political. Things concern me, but it's not a (part of) my comedy."

Though he says he has been offered directing projects — nothing too intriguing, he says, but the offers are nice — he knows that his standup "will last longer than my movies, definitely. The Pryor stuff just came out on DVD, I just watched that. Eddie Murphy's 'Delirious' is out. That stuff sticks around now.

"But I'd love to work with people like ('Meet the Parents' director) Jay Roach, or Will Ferrell. My stuff is one thing, Will's stuff is another, but it could mesh, you know? There's definitely some cool people I'd like to work with.

"A part of me feels like the outsider a lot of the time. We all feel that, I think. All comics. We all feel that sort of outsider aspect. Me, too."

WAHLBERG • Continued from 5

right now. I really wanted to make it."

"Shooter" director Antoine Fuqua ("Training Day") and Wahlberg, along with producer Lorenzo di Bonaventura, had been prepping for another movie together when it became obvious that film was not ready to go. "We all really dug working together, so Lorenzo said we ought to take a look at this thing that was 'Shooter,'" says Fuqua. "We did, and both Mark and I really had a positive reaction. We started throwing some ideas around and it felt really right, like, OK, let's go to work."

"Shooter" is based on "Point of Impact," a novel by Stephen Hunter published in 1993, while he was employed as the film critic for the Baltimore Sun. (Hunter has since moved to the Washington Post, where he won a Pulitzer Prize for criticism in 2003.) The best seller would spawn two more books about Bob Lee, three more about his father, and yet another, "Dirty White Boys" that is also set in their Arkansas landscape.

"Point of Impact" was quickly optioned for the film, but Hunter says that by his count, the project went through "two studios, five directors and approximately 365 scripts." He even took a crack at adapting it during a year in Hollywood, which "convinced me that screenwriting wasn't good for me, and I wasn't good for it."

Part of the problem, says Hunter — a journalist in his Army stint and a military and firearms aficionado — was that the political climate of the era, and of Hollywood,

made the subject matter suspect. Was this a paranoid thriller or a conservative cant?

"I think some of the problem was the political climate. But there were also some drafts of the script that missed the point. I remember reading one in which Bob Lee was renamed 'The Hawk.' Ultimately, though, I think it just needed the firepower of a big Hollywood stud like di Bonaventura to ram it through the process."

"It's a complicated story," says Wahlberg. "I had to keep going back to the thing every day. There are conspiracies inside of conspiracies, and my character has to be a step ahead of everybody else playing the game. I had to stay on top of it all."

Which brings us back to Stage Two of the Wahlberg Project, where the actor proves his commitment.

An early indication that Wahlberg was taking his job seriously came in 1998, when the Detroit Free Press started receiving calls that Wahlberg had been sighted in downtown watering holes, at the Windsor Casino and record stores.

Was he making a movie here? He wasn't. But he had been cast by director David O. Russell in "Three Kings," playing an airport baggage handler from Detroit in the National Guard, sent to Iraq for the first Gulf War. Wahlberg says he figured if he was playing a working-class guy from Detroit, he ought to get a feel for working-class Detroit, so he spent a couple of weeks hanging out — "just listening and talking to people, observing," he says. "I wanted it be authentic."

The experience would serve him well when John



SPECIAL TO THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Former Calvin Klein posterboy Mark Wahlberg has won Hollywood's respect for his acting chops in hard roles.

Singleton cast him as a Detroit cop in 2005's "Four Brothers," a loose, updated remake of "The Sons of Katie Elder" set in the Motor City, but filmed mostly in Canada. Once again, he played the working-class, street-smart tough guy with an explosive edge. In between, Wahlberg played a naive 1970s porn star in P.T. Anderson's "Boogie Nights" — a film he wouldn't make today. "I got kids," he says. He signed on with Tim Burton, figuring if anybody could pull off

a remake of "Planet of the Apes," it was Burton. And he was a suave American in Paris romancing Thandie Newton in Jonathan Demme's "Charade" remake, "The Truth About Charlie."

"I learned a lot making all those films and working with all those guys," Wahlberg says.

"But now I want to exert my personality, and pick films I want to be in, rather than ones I think I should be in. I think I've earned that."

"It's an explosion of flavor"

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PIC OF THE DAY

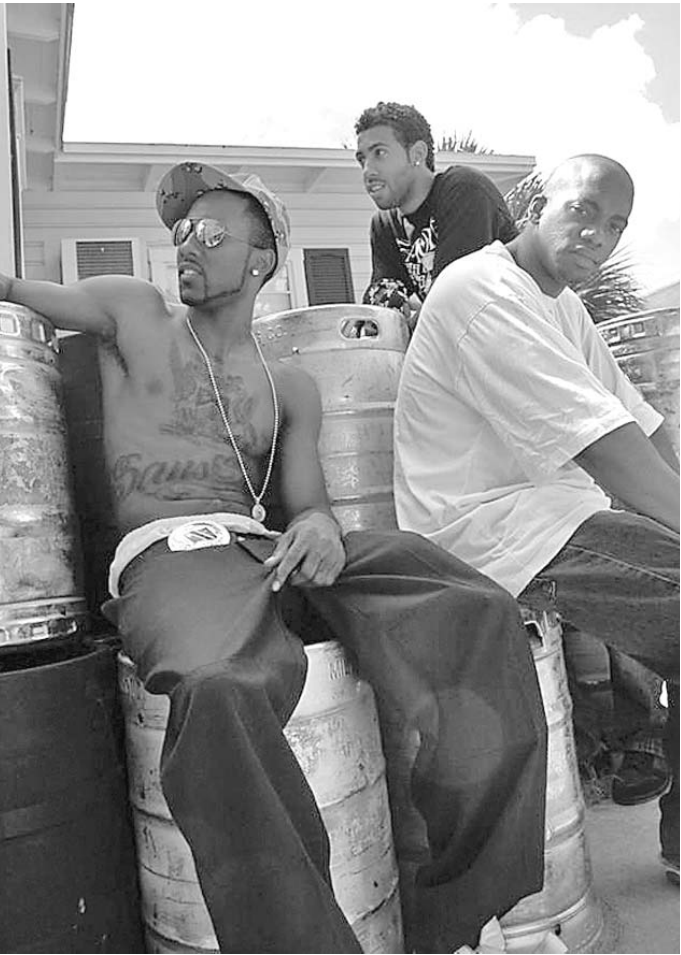


Meg Gaillard / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Anthropology graduate student Ben Johnson digs at a Darlington site during break.

the scene
at USC

Whole Wheat Bread



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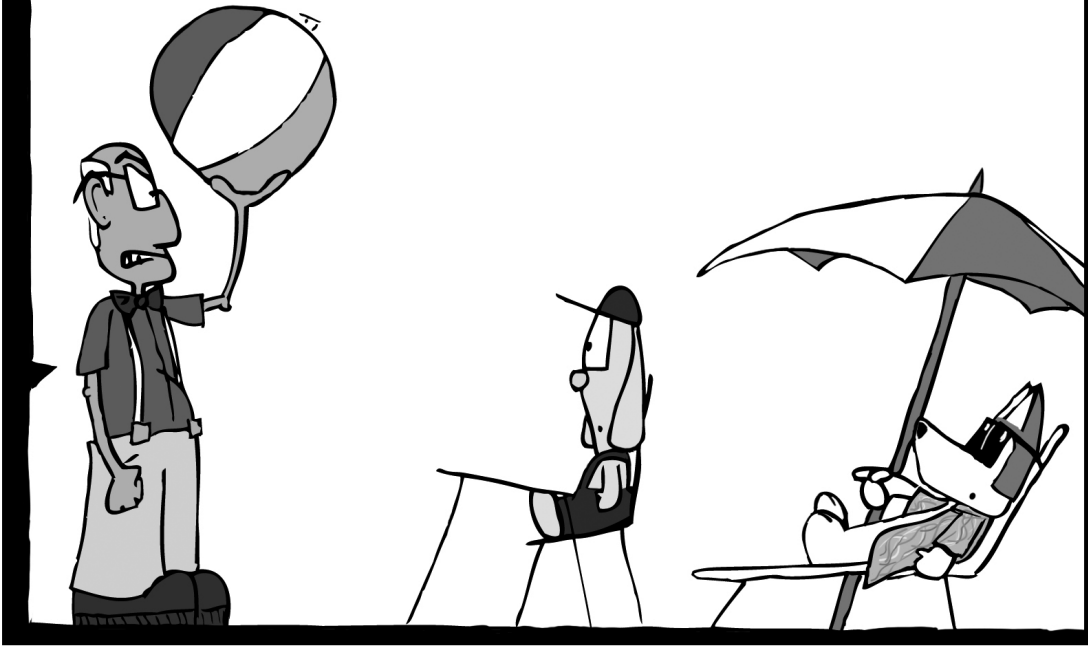
HOROSCOPES

Aries You could get a lot done in the next couple of days, or you could party with your friends and not accomplish a thing.
Taurus The deadline is approaching, which gets your adrenaline pumping. Don't get panicky, though.
Gemini The assignment now is to get somebody else to do something for you. The request must be non-verbal.
Cancer Use what you've recently learned to gain more authority. You've been looking at a bigger picture.
Leo Don't despair if you haven't made it to where you want to be. Travel conditions are fabulous today and tomorrow.
Virgo Lots of ideas are floating around, but which ones can you afford? It's OK to count other people's money as well as your own. You can talk them into a good deal.
Libra Do the regular chores as quickly as you can. You may want to leave a little early, for romantic personal reasons.
Scorpio You're efficient now and also lucky, so full speed ahead! You can see what needs to be done.
Sagittarius You're having fun with the love part, but you're still not into the working. This is why you always need to have a job you like.
Capricorn You appear to be withdrawn into your private space. To you, it seems like you're venturing into a whole new realm of discovery. Enjoy.
Aquarius You're a natural communicator. It's not easy for you to be quiet. You'll make a lot more money in the next few weeks if you can, though. Give it a try.
Pisces After an awkward start, you're getting into the groove. What you're doing is fun, and it's lucrative, too.

Inside the Box ♦ By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock

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Sudoku

By Michael Mephram

3/19/07

8	3			9		2
		9	5		4	1
	6					4
	8		1	7	3	
				5		
			2	4	8	3
	9					1
		8	7		2	5
1			3			7
						4

Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play

Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3 by 3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solutions to Friday's Sudoku

2	6	4	3	8	5	9	1	7
7	9	8	4	2	1	5	3	6
5	3	1	9	7	6	2	4	8
8	1	7	2	9	4	6	5	3
6	5	9	1	3	7	8	2	4
3	4	2	6	5	8	1	7	9
9	2	5	7	6	3	4	8	1
4	8	3	5	1	9	7	6	2
1	7	6	8	4	2	3	9	5

Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

3/19/07

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ACROSS

- 1 Actress Rogers
- 5 Wall climbers
- 10 Spanish home
- 14 De-crease
- 15 Came to
- 16 Boat's body
- 17 End of discussion!
- 19 Polish prose
- 20 Main course
- 21 Abate
- 23 Lady Liberty's prop
- 26 Supply boat
- 27 1900
- 30 Father
- 31 Business letter abbr.
- 32 Captain in "Moby Dick"
- 34 OK Corral combatant
- 36 Lugged
- 40 Nigerian city
- 42 Curly's friend
- 43 Chalkboard
- 44 'Tween
- 45 Brad of "Troy"
- 47 Break bread
- 48 Use a Singer
- 50 Dweeb
- 52 Vegas lead-in
- 53 Flying object?
- 56 Iroquois tribe members
- 58 Sticking to the agenda
- 60 Pentax or Kodak
- 64 Black in Burgundy
- 65 Major phone connections
- 68 Vogue rival
- 69 Chart stand
- 70 Sardine containers
- 71 Visualizes
- 72 Stockholm

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
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71					72					73		

Solutions from Friday

G	R	E	E	N	B	E	R	G		A	W	I	N	G		
M	U	L	L	I	O	N	E	D		S	E	N	O	R		
A	L	L	I	G	A	T	O	R		S	A	U	T	E		
N	E	S	T	E	R	S				M	I	N	N	I	E	
			E	L	D		A	D	E	S			D	O	N	
G	A	T		S	E	R	P	E	N	T		A	N	S		
R	U	E	D		S	R	I	P	S		S	A	T	A	N	
E	C	C	E		S	N	A	P	S			L	I	L	A	
E	T	H	I	C		S	L	O	E			F	O	L	K	
N	I	N		H	E	E	L	T	A	P		N	Y	E		
B	O	O		R	U	S				E	A	R				
A	N	C	H	O	R					T	A	P	E	R	E	D
C	E	R	A	M			F	R	U	G	A	L	I	T	T	E
K	E	A	N	E		O	U	B	L	I	E	T	T	E		
S	R	T	A	S			G	R	E	E	N	T	E	A	S	

- 29 First Christmas visitors
- 33 Game figures
- 35 Falk or Fonda
- 37 Rear appendage
- 38 Sicilian volcano
- 39 Ruby and Sandra
- 41 Nearly vertical
- 46 Thin stream
- 49 Gets off a letter
- 51 Start a new hand
- 53 Loudness units
- 54 Tropical lizard
- 55 Functional
- 57 Hit, Biblically
- 59 Crop of a bird
- 61 Author Bagnold
- 62 M. Descartes
- 63 Grp.
- 66 Function
- 67 Actor Beatty



Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK
USC shortstop Reese Havens fields a ball Saturday against LSU. Havens helped Carolina improve to 2-1 in SEC play.

Carolina gets pair from LSU

Gamecocks open SEC play with strong performance against Bayou Bengals

Chris Cox
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Whenever the Carolina baseball team thinks of the LSU Tigers, it thinks of one word: Domination. Coming into last weekend's series, the Gamecocks had won seven consecutive games versus the Tigers, including a victory in the College World Series in 2004. Despite not being able to keep that winning streak alive, Carolina (17-3, 2-1 SEC) managed to take two of three games versus LSU (13-9, 1-2 SEC) at Sarge Frye Field.

The series got underway Friday night with a classic pitchers duel, as junior Harris Honeycutt battled possible first-rounder Charlie Furbush through

six furious innings. After Furbush gave up a leadoff home run to Harley Lail, his second in as many games, the lanky lefty settled in, allowing only two more hits while striking out 10 Gamecock batters. Honeycutt allowed only three hits and no runs with nine strikeouts to keep USC's lead at 1-0.

Carolina was finally able to get to Furbush in the bottom of the seventh as Andrew Crisp started the inning with a leadoff walk. Pinch-runner junior center fielder Steven Reinhold then advanced to second after junior second baseman Travis Jones pushed a bunt past the first baseman. Sophomore shortstop Reese Havens then laid down a bunt on the third-base line, where a perfect throw was for naught as the Tigers' first baseman was unable to field the ball as it rolled to the USC dugout, pushing

BASEBALL ● 9

Columbia Stingers open first season with a buzz

Despite loss, coach excited for future

Alex Riley
SPORTS EDITOR

Columbia Stingers coach Corey Miller stood on the field in the Colonial Center as fans poured onto the field for autographs with the players and coaches. Fans shook his hand and complimented him for the effort his team showed in its inaugural game.

Despite the scoreboard reading a 48-34 victory for the visiting Cincinnati Marshalls, Miller was pleased.

"I expected us to be rusty," Miller said. "Honestly, this is the first day we've actually put pads on. I told the guys this is an exhibition game for us."

Miller, a former NFL linebacker, saw a crowd of 4,000 come out to cheer on his team, which featured a 35-year-old quarterback/quarterbacks coach, three former members of the USC secondary and a turf that arrived just hours before kickoff from Columbus, Ga.

"These guys had to get used to the tackling. They haven't been in this high speed game, so I'm happy," Miller said. "First time playing, first time putting on pads we lose by two touchdowns and really we had a chance to win had we protected the ball."

Miller and offensive coordinator Stephan Darby implemented a rotating quarterback system with 35-year-old Kent Merideth (who also serves at the position's coach) and 21-year-old Brandon Sims. Merideth tossed four touchdowns on the day while Sims hooked up with receiver/kicker Brady Bryant just before halftime for a Hail Mary touchdown.



Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK
Columbia Stingers receiver Dejarvis Rodgers caught two touchdowns Saturday.

"Brandon is a great athlete. We can play him at any position -- quarterback, receiver, he can even play defense," Miller said. "But Kent's a guy who's been in the arena league so I wanted to start with him. But we're definitely going to get the ball in our best players hand and let them go."

Merideth, a North Greenville graduate, is happy with the system.

"It changes everything

up and keeps defenses on its toes," Merideth said.

Columbia's first score of the game came from the arm of Merideth to Dejarvis Rodgers on a 27-yard score for the team's first touchdown ever. That would be one of two scores for Rodgers, who caught a 10-yarder from Merideth in the second half. Merideth's other two scores were 40- and 15-yard hookups with Brett Bigham.

With a two-week road trip to Cincinnati, Ohio and Fayetteville, N.C., coming up, Miller is ready to make his team better and bring a pair of wins back to Columbia.

"We've got lot of work to do. I promise the next time you see us at home we'll be a much better football team," Miller said.

Comments on this story?
E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

USC QB APPLIES FOR PTI, OFFERS APOLOGY

Garcia gets day in court, pledges to make amends for "rookie mistakes"

Alex Riley
SPORTS EDITOR

USC freshman quarterback Stephen Garcia appeared in front of Columbia Judge Steven Dennis on Wednesday morning and asked for Pre-Trial Intervention.

Garcia, who in the span of two weeks was charged with drunkenness, malicious injury to personal property and failure to stop on police command, had the failure to stop charge dropped and will be held responsible for the drunkenness charge from his first arrest and the damage charge from his second.

"He's taken full responsibility. He's sorry for what he's done," said Garcia's attorney Neal Lourie. "He has true remorse. He has emphasized

GARCIA ● 9

Gamecocks knock out Hawks in round two



Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK
Carolina guard Stacy Booker guided USC to a win in the Women's National Invitational Tournament against Hartford on Sunday.

USC women defeat Hartford in WNIT game, to take on Hofstra at home Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Michael Finnegan
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The women's basketball team (18-14) rolled past the Hawks of Hartford University (25-9) 81-40 in a second round Women's NIT game Sunday at the Colonial Center.

The more experienced and taller Gamecocks were too much for the Hawks.

USC, which has seven players taller than 6 feet, dominated Hartford inside and outscored them 38-14 in the paint. The Gamecocks also used its size on the defensive end, registering seven blocks and out rebounding the Hawks 42-32.

Another key was the athleticism of the Gamecocks who forced 21 turnovers, including 14 steals, which led to 29 fast break points. USC also turned the ball over 21 times, but got back defensively to limit the Hawks to zero fast break points.

USC used its depth and quickness to get out of the gate quickly against a tired and weary Hartford team. USC made its first six field goals to open up a 12-5 lead. Hartford brought it to 12-10, but that was the closest the score would get as USC went on a 20-0 run to put the game out of reach.

USC looks to use this game as a statement game since they believed they should have been in the NCAA

tourney. "Right now we've got an opportunity in front of us. I am glad we were selected to play in the WNIT," said coach Susan Walvius. "A lot of teams right now are not playing basketball."

Senior forward Melanie Johnson led a well-balanced USC team with 18 points to go along with four rebounds.

Senior guard Lauren Simms was the only other USC player in double digits with 10 points. Eleven out of the 12 active players on the roster scored at least one basket.

One of the keys to the game was the resurrection of senior guard Lea Fabbri who has been battling an ankle injury ever since the Alabama game and made her first start since the Vanderbilt game on Feb 18.

"She is a very good point guard," Walvius said. "She does provide a lot of stability, even though her numbers are not always spectacular."

USC used the fast start and easy fast break baskets to shoot 61 percent from the field for the game, the highest in the history of the Colonial Center and sixth highest in school history.

USC will host Hofstra in the third round Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Comments on this story?
E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

BASEBALL • Continued from 8

Carolina's lead to 2-0. Lail then collected another RBI as he beat out a potential double play to score Jones from third, padding Carolina's lead to 3-0.

With the win, Honeycutt improved to 5-0 on the year and 13-0 in his three-year career at USC, while lowering his season ERA to a sparkling 0.86. He also extended his scoreless inning streak to 21 innings.

"(Honeycutt) made some big pitches when he needed to," said coach Ray Tanner. "On their side, Furbush was really good. It was a pitchers' duel. We were fortunate to score some runs late. Furbush is highly touted and is going to be a pretty good draft pick. He

showed you why."

Unfortunately, the luck of the Irish was no help to USC on Saturday, as green hats, green pinstripes and green socks worked against the Gamecocks in a 6-5 loss in front of 5,057 chilly fans on St. Patrick's Day. Junior pitcher Jared Bradford held Carolina hitters at bay all the way until the seventh inning, while his team's offense was able to put together a 5-0 lead, when senior first baseman Drew Martin hit a three-run shot to cut LSU's lead to 5-3.

Carolina's momentum would continue until the bottom of the eighth, after USC pitcher Will Atwood was able to stave off the LSU offense for another inning. Junior catcher Trent Kline led off the bottom of the

eighth with a single, but the momentum clearly swung back to LSU when freshman third baseman Lonnie Chisenhall grounded into a crucial double play.

Right-hander Mike Cisco (2-1) took the loss for Carolina, while Bradford (4-1) picked up his fourth victory of the year. It was LSU's first victory over Carolina since March 21, 2004.

"Cisco pitched his heart out for us," Tanner said. "We misplayed a couple of balls in the outfield that led to runs by them, but they did a better job on offense. It was two pitchers going at it."

It looked to be a pitchers duel all over again Sunday afternoon as freshman right-hander Blake Cooper

faced off against fellow freshman T.J. Forrest of LSU. Carolina would get on the board early as Lail led off the game with a walk, stole second, advanced to third on a single by Kline, and then scored on a passed ball.

That would be enough as Cooper would give way to Will Atwood midway through the sixth inning with a 1-0 Carolina lead, where Carolina increased their lead in the bottom half of the frame as Kline doubled to left field, then scored on a Justin Smoak single to give Carolina some more breathing room with a 2-0 lead.

Carolina would blow the game wide open in the bottom of the seventh as Jones tripled and Havens

walked. Lail then stepped in and delivered a single to left field, scoring Jones. Kline then collected yet another double, scoring Havens and Lail to go up 5-0. Two straight walks to sophomore first baseman Justin Smoak and junior catcher Phil Disher loaded the bases for Carolina, and Darnell collected two RBIs on a single, putting Carolina up 7-0.

Those insurance runs would prove critical to USC, as LSU responded with five runs of their own in the top half of the eighth inning, pulling within two. Kline delivered the knockout punch for USC, hitting a towering two-run blast over the left field wall. His seventh hit of the series put Carolina up to a comfortable 9-5.

"I was looking for something out over the middle of the plate," Kline said. "I figured they were going to try to pitch to me and give me something good to hit. Smoak is hitting behind me so that makes it easier."

Cooper was given the win for USC, improving his record to 3-0 on the year, while Forrest took the loss for LSU, to fall to 1-1 on the season.

"When you get two out of three on the weekend in this league, you have to consider it a successful weekend," Tanner said. "There are so many good teams in this league."

*Comments on this story?
E-mail gckspmts@gwm.sc.edu*

GARCIA • Continued from 8

to me several times that he apologizes to his teammates, the USC fans, his coaches, and I think he is on the right path."

Garcia was arrested in Five Points in mid-January. Two weeks later, he was arrested again after keying professor Adam Biggs' car.

Biggs, who gave permission for Garcia to apply for PTI, asked the judge that the 19-year-old state in front of the court that he did in fact key Biggs' car. Garcia apologized to Biggs saying he was sorry for the all the trouble he had caused. As part of the program, Garcia is required to pay for the damage done to Biggs' car as well as possibly do community service or attend counseling run by the program.

"He's had a wake up call, and we look forward to him having a success here at Carolina," Lourie said.

Acceptance to the PTI program from 5th Circuit Solicitor Barney Giese's office could take up to 30 days, Lourie said.



Lindsay Semple / The Associated Press

USC freshman Stephen Garcia applied for PTI last week.

Garcia's father Gary said he was glad his son had the opportunity to apologize to Biggs and was ready to focus on his future at USC both on the field and in the classroom.

"Like I said in the past, he's a great kid, and you guys will learn to love him," Gary Garcia said.

*Comments on this story?
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NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The Daily Gamecock

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Summer, Fall 2007

The Daily Gamecock, University of South Carolina's student newspaper, is looking for a Spring 2007 Editor in Chief. Applicant must be of junior or senior standing, maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, and have at least one year experience at the newspaper (or equivalent). Applicant must submit samples of work, completed application form and three letters of reference.

Application and job description available at:

Office of the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Russell House 112.

Online at: www.sa.sc.edu/studentmedia or www.dailygamecock.com

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Wednesday, March 28, 2007 at 4:00 P.M. Russell House 112

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Academic Year 2007-2008

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Application and job description available at:

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